

## NOTICE INVITING 2008-2009 TITLE III APPLICATIONS

### **Title III, Part A, Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient (LEP) and Immigrant Students: LEA Subgrants for Supplementary Programs and Services**

#### **BRIEF OVERVIEW OF TITLE III:**

Title III of the No Child Left Behind Act authorizes states to make subgrants to local educational agencies (LEAs) for the purposes of: 1) developing high-quality language instructional programs in teaching limited English proficiency (LEP) students and serving immigrant children and youth and; 2) providing professional development for educators working with students and families.

#### **IMPORTANT DEADLINES:**

- **September 12, 2008: Notification of Intent to Apply for Title III LEP Subgrant and/or Title III Immigrant Subgrant** -- LEAs or Consortia must notify Jim McCobb, Title III Program Coordinator, (828-0185 or [james.mccobb@state.vt.us](mailto:james.mccobb@state.vt.us)) of their "intent to apply" by 9/12/2008 at the latest.
- **October 1, 2008: Application Deadline for Title III LEP Subgrant**
- **October 1, 2008: Application Deadline for Title III Immigrant Subgrant**

#### **TITLE III LEP INSTRUCTIONS & APPLICATION (SECTIONS A-E and SECTION F)**

The attached instructions and application forms with this email can be downloaded. Please read the instructions carefully *before* filling out the application. If an LEA does not meet the required deadlines above, its funds will be redistributed to eligible applicants.

#### **FUNDING AND ELIGIBILITY:**

Each year the Department of Education receives \$325,000 (small state minimum) for making **Title III LEP and Title III Immigrant subgrant awards** to *eligible* LEAs or Consortia (two or more LEAs).

#### **I. Title III LEP Subgrants**

Ninety percent of the Title III funds are used for LEP subgrant awards.

**Eligibility** - An LEA or Consortium must have enough limited English proficient students (English Language Learners or ELLs) to qualify for at least a \$10,000 subgrant. **This year funds will be targeted to the 1,133 ELLs whose Overall (Composite) Score on the Spring 2008 ACCESS for ELLs assessment was lower than Proficiency Level 5.0.** [NOTE: A student may score 5.0 or higher and still be classified as LEP based on other criteria, but *Title III funds* are targeted for students scoring lower than 5.0. The Vermont Department of Education recommends the use of multiple criteria (NOT the single *ACCESS for ELLs* composite score) to determine when to exit students from ELL services—even though the cut score is used to allocate Title III funds.

Based on the student count and the currently available Title III LEP funds, the **estimated** allocation for the 2008-2009 school year is \$258.16 per student. Therefore, an LEA needs to have at least 39 students to qualify independently.

**Appendix A** of the **attached Title III Grant Application Instructions** lists the number of eligible students and the **tentative** allocation for each LEA in Vermont. (**Final** allocations are determined by the number of LEAs that actually apply and qualify. Funds from LEAs that do not apply will be reallocated among LEAs that qualify.)

### **Independent LEA –**

**In other words, if your LEA has enough students to qualify for a grant of \$10,000 or more,** it may apply alone. There is still the option to team up with one or more other LEAs and submit a consortia grant if it is felt that such collaboration would be more productive.

**Consortia - LEAs that do not have enough students to qualify alone** may join with other LEAs interested in submitting an application. The conditions for consortia are that one LEA must act as lead and fiscal agent and, **all LEAs** must be willing to assure that they will meet Title III requirements and be accountable for implementing the required activities. For more detailed information on these requirements, please read the 3/2/2006 memo, *Clarification on Title III Requirements (Q & A regarding Consortia of LEAs under Title III, Part A.)*

## **II. Title III Immigrant Subgrants**

Ten percent of the total Title III funds must be set aside for one or more districts that: 1) meet the state's criteria for an **Immigrant Grant**; and 2) complete a separate application for these set-aside funds.

Districts that believe they meet the criteria for the Immigrant Subgrant set-aside should contact the Program Coordinator by **September 12, 2008** (same as the LEP subgrant) and be prepared to document that they meet the criteria. A separate application, due **October 1, 2008**, will be required for funding.

**Eligibility** – To qualify for the 10% set aside of Immigrant Grant funds in Vermont, districts must have more than 50 “eligible immigrant” students in the current year (2008-2009) and have data showing an increase of at least a 10% in the number of such students in 2007-2008 over the average of the two preceding fiscal years (2006-2007 and 2005-2006).

The term “**eligible immigrant**” refers to a student who: is aged 3 through 21 (and enrolled in a K-12 program), was not born in any state in the US; and has not been attending school in any one or more states for more than three full academic years. They are not required to be “Limited English Proficient” to be included in the Immigrant Data.

**FURTHER QUESTIONS?** For technical assistance, contact Jim McCobb, Title III Program Coordinator, Vermont Department of Education, at (802) 828-0185 or [James.McCobb@state.vt.us](mailto:James.McCobb@state.vt.us).